

Eastern Express

November/December 2009

The Newsletter of the Eastern Library System—SSN 1064-3486

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Happy Holidays

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From the Executive Director....*Kathy Tooker*

TRANS → FORM → ATION BUSINESS

Libraries should be in the transformation business not the transaction business that is centered on collections of books, DVDs, databases, etc. according to Tracie D. Hall, founder of GoodSeed Consulting Group, and speaker at both a workshop and the Fall Colloquium sponsored by the Eastern and Southeast Library Systems. Hall says the libraries change people, places, and things with information; too often we have policies in place that inhibit our ability to provide the transformational experience that library customers seek. A person coming to a library wants more than just a transaction (i.e. checking out a book), they come to a library to change their lives.

Libraries need to analyze customer service needs and not let policies and procedures stand in the way of using good judgment. Customer service needs to become customized service. As librarians, we need to offer a broader range of products, more thoughtful solutions, ask questions,

listen carefully, and engage in building a relationship with the customer. A little humor may be appropriate.

Hall contends that customers no longer want or expect libraries to focus on static, fixed models of service models that no longer fit our users needs, wants, and expectations of value-added service.

Instead of providing good library service to our users, we may stop short at providing library customers with quality customer service.



L-R...Tracie Hall, Elaine Westbrooks—University of Nebraska Lincoln, Brenda Ealey—Southeast Library System, Julie Beno—Lincoln City Libraries

What Libraries Supply:

- Product Focus (on library collection and facilities)
- Sameness
- Uneven Service
- Standardization
- Customer Processing
- Library Policies

What Library Customers Want:

- Personal Focus on Customer's Needs, Wants, and Preferences
- Differentiation
- Seamlessness
- Innovation
- Compelling Customer Experience
- Customized Response

(Based on a model by Scott McKain)

Continued on next page →

(Transformation Business continued)

All of this sounds great but in the real world how does a library make it happen? We all know that change is difficult, some people love it while others are less enthusiastic about it — and some will even quit rather than change.

Hall says to initiate change by asking ourselves these questions:

1. Do we need to reexamine library policies? (Are we setting ourselves up to do our best work? Are we thinking “customer” whenever we create policy?)
2. Do we have an executable vision?
3. Do we acknowledge the difference between user/customer “processing” and user/customer service?
4. Are we making room for innovation and risk?
5. Are we extending our presence virtually?
6. Are we personalizing our service?
7. Have we adopted an active outreach (time/territory model)?

We all know it takes time to make changes in a library, but it is possible to start with making innovative changes in one area or one branch.

Ten Steps—Ten Seconds

Jodene Glaeseman, branch supervisor at Lincoln Cities Walt Branch, has instituted this as one way of providing customized service. She calls it the 10 steps, 10 second policy. When a library customer asks where an item is the librarian, instead of pointing, walks with the customer for 10 steps and 10 seconds. This interaction with the customer is very important and takes little time or effort but demonstrates to the customer that their needs are important.



Upcoming Events

November 28—Barnes and Noble Book Fair. Support Eastern Library System and do your holiday book shopping at the Barnes & Noble Book Store at Oakview—144th and Center, Omaha.



December 11—ELS Board Meeting, Early Childhood Training Center—Omaha, 9:30 am

December 11 from 2-5pm.

Come and see the new Eastern Library System office, have some refreshments and visit with the staff and board. We are very proud of our new office space and we would love to show it off. Plus you can take a look at some of the services we have to offer system members.



December 18 - Direct Meeting, Baright Public Library, Ralston

2010

January 8 - Technology Workshops (more info coming)

February 5 - CLICK Meeting, Early Childhood Training Center, Omaha

February 9 - Library Legislative Day

February 12 - ELS Board Meeting—Omaha Public Library, Elkhorn Branch

March 20 - Media Specialist Training Day (more info coming)

April 9 - ELS Board Meeting—Lyons Public Library

Be sure to mention ELS when you do your Holiday Shopping!

Eastern Library System Book Fair Saturday, November 28th Barnes & Noble at Oakview, 144th and Center, Omaha

Our Shared Vision for Library and Information Services: Nebraska Libraries Future Search Conference

[by Sharon Osenga, Meridian Library System]

Vision statement:

Front Porch: My library provides an inviting and welcoming front porch where the community comes to learn, play and investigate. People come first in this nurturing and enriching gathering place for all.

The public perceives the library as a neutral place and it is a natural meeting place for divergent cultures, ideas and groups to meet. Libraries should be sensitive to the changing nature of our communities due to immigration and cultural values shifts.

In an article on gaming in libraries from the August/September 2009 *American Libraries*, Jenny Levine suggests some possible goals:

Offer recreation around content (book discussion groups; craft classes)
Offer social communal space (adult programming; rooms for knitters)
Offer literacy programs (storytime)
Offer interactions between different demographics (family events, multigenerational programming)

Suggested activities for the library as Front Porch:

- Grandparents reading to kids
- Singing
- Serve seasonal beverages
- Read around the posies
- Rock-a-thon
- Kool-Aid stand
- Spooning
- Birdhouses
- Ice cream socials
- Bluegrass
- Shoebox social
- Gaming bees – “Wii-Bee”
- Film festival – outdoors; make community films
- Chautauqua
- Greeters
- Local art displays
- Historical reenactment

- Make your own video
- Open microphone events
- “Fine front porch” – less formal entry
- Have experts make visits to make suggestions on making physical space more hospitable
- Outreach to determine what is done (especially diverse populations)
- Curbside service on roller skates
- Drinks and books
- Facebook, Myspace; and whatever is next
- Posters where our neighbors are
- Wii tournaments

Things to think about and discuss:

What are the emerging groups in your community? Don't just think of ethnicity but of other groups such as latchkey children, the unemployed and young mothers.

What programming are you offering throughout the year to these various communities?

Do you offer materials and services for the informational, recreational and social needs of your community?

What ideas from those listed above could you use to create a front porch atmosphere at your library?

When you think of front porch, don't forget how your library looks. Do a “walkabout” and assess how friendly and welcoming your facility is. What can you do to make it more welcoming?

Discuss the following from the South Carolina State Library blog: The fact is, people all around us are connecting in so many new ways. Mostly younger people, at least for now. The USA Today survey that told us that college students would rather give up beer than Facebook. It gave us the news: These kids are not out on the porch, and they are not in the public library...not even in the college library. They are chatting it up, making friends, and passing information around online. Of course, they could be online in the public library. The public library as front porch for the community... something to think about.

Rethink having staff behind desks. Wander around the library offering assistance and guidance. If no one is in need of help, it's a great time to make some impromptu displays.

System News

Award Winner



The Midcontinental Chapter of the Medical Library Association (MCMLA) has awarded its Outstanding Achievement Award to Jim Bothmer, director of the Health Sciences Library/Learning Resources Center at the Creighton University School of Medicine.

Bothmer, an assistant vice president for health sciences, is the 17th person to receive the honor over the past 35 years. MCMLA is a professional organization for individuals and institutions in the health sciences library field. The midcontinental chapter includes the states of Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming.

Jim also just became a grandfather for the first time. Carter James Michela arrived in Reno, NV at 10:04 PDT on October 1. He weighed in at 6lbs. 12 oz and 19" long. Reddish blonde hair!

Banned Books Week

The week to celebrate the freedom to read was held last month. This is a great opportunity for librarians and media specialists to promote the importance of our First Amendment rights and the power of literature. We're sure that most ELS libraries took advantage of this opportunity. Here are a couple of examples:

LaVista—Lindsay did a banned book display in the La Vista Public Library teens' area featuring Unshelved comics as well as banned book from all sections of the library. She wasn't finished with the display when someone was asking for one of the books.

Papillion—A display for Banned Book Week with literature, posters, but no books, was popular. Mary started a first Amendment Film Festival. Twice a week films that showcase the effects of censorship were shown. Notable, the film "Storm Center" with Bette Davis, is about banning a book from a library.

Public Library Accreditation

Guidelines for service were developed for Nebraska public libraries in order to "assist and support improvements in Nebraska public library services." To qualify as an Essential Accredited library, it is necessary to meet all of the 26 Essential Guidelines. To qualify for Enhanced Accreditation, a library must meet all Essential Guidelines, and any 18 of the Enhanced Guidelines. The following libraries, in ELS, qualified for the enhanced status:

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| • Tekamah | • Bellevue |
| • Omaha | • Blair |
| • Hooper | • La Vista |
| • Gretna | • Lyons |
| • Papillion | • Papillion |
| • Beemer | • Springfield |
| • Bennington | • Wisner |
| • West Point | |

To qualify for Excellent Accreditation status, a library must meet all of the Essential and Enhanced Guidelines, and any 14 of the Excellent Guidelines. Two libraries achieved this status;

- Scribner
- Oakland
- Ralston

Scholarship Recipients

The Nebraska Library Association Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the 2009 recipients of the Louise A. Nixon and Duane Munson Scholarships. Both of the winners are from the Eastern Library System.

Nixon Scholarship:

Beth Steffensmeier, Omaha

Marguerite Miller, Omaha

Duane Munson Scholarship:

Marguerite Miller, Omaha

If you didn't apply this year check out these links and see if you qualify for next year's allocations.
<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/nixonschol.htm>

Ruth Peterson has retired from the Blair Public Library and Gayle Roberts is the new director. Congratulations to both ladies.

More System News

Wahoo

The Wahoo Public Library has held a couple of successful fund-raisers this Fall. Residents eating at the local Runza restaurant raised over \$300 for the library...an all time record. In the last five years, Runza Restaurants have donated more than \$120,000 to local libraries and schools through the *Great Book for Great Kids* program. The Friends of the Wahoo Public Library held their 4th annual "Friends Fall Fair" in October featuring over 18 vendors. A portion of the proceeds was donated to the library.

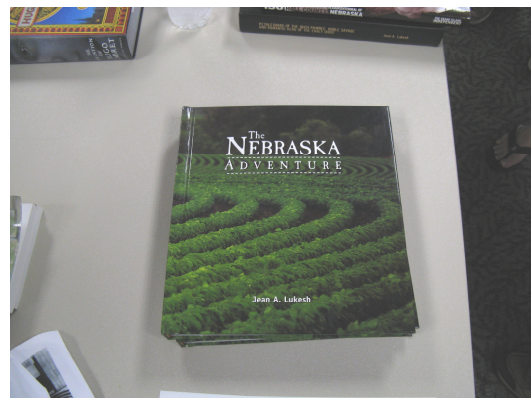
Youth Service Retreat

The 15th Annual Youth Services Retreat was once again a time of learning, networking, relaxing, eating, and enjoying the great outdoors. This year's attendance was down due to budget restraints, however, 26 librarians did come for all or part of the two-day event. Two sessions were particularly memorable.

Robin Clark, director of the Sump Memorial Library in Papillion gave a demonstration of henna tattoos. We were then able to create our own tattoo and part of the procedure was to wrap your tattoo in toilet tissue to allow it to dry.



We were fortunate to be able to have Dr. Jean Lukesh talk to us about one of the books she has written and some she is currently working on. Now retired, Jean had been the Integration Specialist (Media Specialist and Building Level Tech Support Representative) at Walnut Middle School in Grand Island. In 2005 and 2006, she wrote and revised *The Nebraska Adventure*, a Nebraska Studies textbook for the 4th grade. Her book won a 2005 national textbook award for excellence in education, a 2006 Nebraska Book Award for nonfiction, and a 2006 Moonshell Arts and Humanities Council's Literary Award. The book is used in a majority of Nebraska's 4th grade classes across the state.



This is a book that should be in every public library. The publisher is Gibbs Smith Education. Contact information for the book is <http://education.gibbs-smith.com/productdetails.cfm?PC=976>

A good time was had by all. Next year's Youth Services Retreat is September 16-17.



Worth Checking Out

It's Happening in Scotland

[*American Libraries*, August/September 2009]

Louise Brown, 91, has read several books a week since 1946 without incurring a single fine. She mostly borrows large-print books, but has read almost every book in her local library's collection. The staff of the Stranraer Library in Dumfries and Galloway say Brown's enthusiastic reading habits over the past 63 years could earn her a place in the record books.

New Division of the American Library Association February 1, 2009. This marks the date when Friends of Libraries U.S.A. (FOLUSA) and the Association for Library Trustees and Advocates (ALTA) join forces to become an expanded division of ALA. The new organization will be called the Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations, or ALTAFF for short.

Paula Poundstone (comedian and author) will be the national spokesperson and will continue to lend her name, voice and humor to help Friends groups around the country to promote their libraries.

To help local Friends groups promote themselves and the library, ALTAFF has made available free downloadable publicity materials that incorporate Paula's quote, "If you haven't been to the library lately, you're overdue." Included are two public service announcements available in both audio and video formats, as well as bookmarks and other materials. Go to: www.ala.org/altaff and click on "About ALTAFF" and then "Celebrity Spokesperson."

Copyright, the Video

[*School Library Journal*, October 2009]

Some concepts inherently lend themselves toward fun visuals. That's not exactly the case when it comes to copyright law. Nevertheless, this video, created by the Copyright Clearance Centers, is a lively production, animated in a retro style that makes you think you are watching a '50s-era commercial—all the while absorbing the ins and outs of infringement and fair use. The 6.5 minute video, "Copyright Basics," follows debonair Jim T. Librarian

as he sets a colleague straight on how to deal with content. Go to <http://www.copyright.com/> and click on the link to download the video.

Some Interesting Stats

According to an American Library Association report titled "Libraries Connect Communities 3: Public Library Funding and Technology Access Study 2008-2009," the following stats show the importance of libraries.

- 71% of all libraries report that they are the only source of free access to computers and the internet in their communities.
- 66% of public libraries rank job-seeking services among the most crucial online services they offer
- 80% of libraries report helping patrons connect online with government services and information
- 44% of states reported declines in state funding

Award Opportunity

Awarded annually, the Sara Jaffarian Award recognizes a school library or media center that serves children K-8 that conducted an excellent humanities program during the prior school year.

The selected program will receive: \$4,000 cash award, a plaque to be awarded at the 2010 ALA Conference in Washington, D.C., and promotion of the winning program as a model for other school libraries. For more information go to: www.ala.org/jaffarianaward.

Great Group Reads

October was National Reading Group Month. This program of the Women's National Book Association was launched in 2007 to promote reading groups. Following is the 2009 list of Great Group Reads chosen by the National Reading Group Month Selection Committee:

- *Appassionata* by Eva Hoffman
- *The Unit* by Ninni Holmquist
- *The Secret Diaries of Charlotte Bronte* by Syrie James
- *The House on Fortune Street* by Margo Livesey
- *Perfection: A Memoir of Betrayal and Renewal* by Julie Metz
- *While I'm Falling* by Laura Moriarty
- *Out Stealing Horses* by Per Petterson
- *Cost* by Roxanna Robinson
- *Burnt Shadows* by Kamila Shamsie

Resources for Youth Services Librarians and Media Specialists

Love That Dog.....

[*LibrarySparks*, November 2009]

Visit HarperCollins web site at

www.harpercollinschildrens.com/HarperChildrens/Teachers/ and

download a classroom kit for

Sharon Creech's books, *Love That Dog* (2001) and *Hate That Cat* (2008).



Storybug E-newsletter

[*LibrarySparks*, November 2009]

Storyteller Karen Chace offers a free monthly online newsletter, *Catch the Story Bug* with "links to web resources designed to add a dash of spice to your storytelling, rev up your curriculum, and spark your imagination!" Visit www.storybug.net/newsletters.html where you can download back issues and sign up to subscribe.

Book Links - Booklist

Beginning last month, *Book Links* magazine will be published quarterly as a supplement to *Booklist*. The supplement is being offered at no additional cost to subscribers. It will also appear in *Booklist Online*. The free e-newsletter *Quick Tips* will continue as *Booklist's Quick Tips for Schools and Libraries*. To sign up for the newsletter go to: www.booklistonline.com



Check out <http://www.crayola.com/>

You will find lots of ideas, lesson plans, creative games and crafts.

Planning Your Budget

According to *School Library Journal*, Children's and YA hard back books will increase on average 26 cents per title (\$21.10-21.36) in 2009 and paperbacks an additional 9 cents per book (\$11.36-11.45).



Money, Money, Money

To locate and apply for federal and state-funded grants, visit Grants.gov, your one-stop source for government-based funding.

Grants for Schools

www.schoolgrants.org/index.htm is a great site for school media specialists who are seeking funding sources. Grants for Schools provides proposal writing tips and lots of practical fund-raising ideas.

FREE BOOKS

The National Endowment for the Humanities in cooperation with the American Library Association, is offering 4,000 libraries a set of classic books for young readers related to the theme "A More Perfect Union." This is in conjunction with the sixth "We the People Bookshelf" program which is observing the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. Bookshelf is a grant program that encourages young people to read and understand great literature while exploring themes in American history. **Online applications will be accepted now through January 20, 2010.**



Go to www.publicprograms.ala.org/bookshelf for an application and guidelines. Any public library or K-12 school library (public and private) in the United States can apply.

NEMA Awards and Scholarship Winners

Distinguished Service Award: **Gail Formanack**, Omaha Public Schools. Gail has served both our organization as well as the students and staff of Omaha Public Schools for many years with tremendous heart and as the ultimate professional. Gail inspires and encourages those she works with and cares deeply about preparing students to be successful lifelong learners.

Sound Off for Media Award: **Carol Nish**, St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School, Omaha. Carol serves the 800 plus K-8th grade students and staff at St. Vincent's. She created and coordinates an annual Reader's Quiz Bowl competition among middle school students throughout the schools of the Archdiocese of Omaha. This program, which has grown to involve eleven schools in just three years, has exposed students to a variety of books and, most importantly, created an excitement for reading.

Paul Ashford, Millard Public School, was the recipient of a conference/workshop scholarship.

Rod Wagner, NLC, received the Meritorious Service Award.



Books in Series

The Nebraska Library Commission's Books in Series Website at

www.nlc.state.ne.us/ref/booksinseries/index.html

lets readers search book series by author, series name, or book title. This is a terrific resource for those who read voluminous series such as Star Wars and Star Trek or who are beginning a new series. Books in Series is one of the Commission's most popular sites and since its inception in 2003, the Commission has received notes and e-mails from customers around the country thanking them for these lists. Many have submitted additional series lists to be included in this database. If you can't find the series you're looking for, click on the Contact Us link and Commission staff will add it.

For more information contact Lisa Kelly, Nebraska Library Commission Information Services Director, 402-471-4015 or 800-307-2665; lkelly@nlc.state.ne.us.

College of DuPage Teleconferences 2009-2010

Another season of great programming for librarians is coming up! Again this year, on behalf of all Nebraska libraries, the Nebraska Library Commission has subscribed to the teleconference series put on by the College of DuPage.

Programs can be accessed via Webcast or via satellite downlink. Every program is on a Friday at 11 a.m. (10 a.m. Mountain time) and lasts 90 minutes. Register for each program—free to you!--on the Nebraska Library Commission Training calendar at: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/training/train.asp>.

Host a group! Enhance the learning by sharing and discussing the program with others. Only one person per site needs to register.

Programs:

- Making the Best of a Shrinking Budget: Creative Practices in a New Economy January 29, 2010
- Cataloging: Where are we now? Where are we going? February 19, 2010
- Information Literacy Education: A National Overview March 12, 2010

•Technology Trends in Libraries: Tools, Skills, Staffing, Training April 9, 2010

More information on program contents will be forthcoming. We will post the information in the Library Training Calendar and at:

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/ce/dupage/collidupage.html>.

JOB OPENING

The City of Blair is accepting applications for the position of Librarian until **4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 1, 2009**. Blair is a family-oriented, growing community that embraces education, creative thinking, service learning, and outreach opportunities. Outstanding customer service skills are welcomed and appreciated in this progressive, expanding community. Job functions include but are not limited to assisting the Director in supervising library aides, student employees, and volunteers. Maintains library materials including new, donated, or leased library materials. Participates in planning and conducting library programming. Completes basic bookkeeping responsibilities including but not limited to statistical compilations of adult and children's collection circulation usage. Minimum of bachelor's degree in library services, education, child development or related field or five (5) years previous experience in a library facility is required. Please refer to the job description below for additional information regarding essential job functions and knowledge, skills and abilities required for the position.

Starting salary is \$27,634.88 (\$13.286 per hour)

The City of Blair does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

Completed applications are **required** in applying for this position but resume/other attachments are welcome. Electronic submission is **encouraged** to: jobs@ci.blair.ne.us. Applications will also be accepted by mail or fax. ***Only applications received by the above deadline will be considered.*** If you are unable to download any of the information and would like it mailed or faxed, please contact Brenda Wheeler, City Clerk, City of Blair, 218 S. 16th Street, Blair, Nebraska 68008 (402) 426-6694 or email brwheeler@ci.blair.ne.us.

All inquiries regarding this position should be directed to Gayle Roberts, Library Director at (402) 426-3617 or email groberts@ci.blair.ne.us.

Thinking About a Disaster

by Harry Willems

[taken from *CKLS POST*, November-December 2009]



Here is a list of what to collect or do before a disaster strikes. Your response can determine the extent of damage and if the library reopens in a reasonable amount of time.

1. Find and label water, electrical and gas shutoffs. Make sure staff knows where they are and make sure all are functional. In any disaster, shut off all utilities until someone determines what can be turned back on.
2. Talk to coaches, 4-H leaders, or other organized groups to get a commitment of understanding that they will provide manpower if it is needed to move materials. Write down names and phone numbers to call.
3. Get agreements with storage facilities, preferably cold storage. Refrigerated vans, walk in coolers, frozen food storage are all good places to check. You may need to look in the next town for this. Write down contact information. Keeping books cold or frozen will stop mold and mildew long enough for drying to be arranged.
4. List the chain of command for who's in charge in the event of a disaster. Is it the librarians, board chair? List a progression of 1-5 leaders in a top down order.
5. Write down the important phone numbers and give to each employee. Also have employee's home phone numbers readily available.
6. Have all fire extinguishers inspected yearly, and make sure your facility has adequate extinguishers. Local fire stations can do a walk through to make suggestions.
7. Make sure all exits are clear, uncluttered with mops and storage materials.
8. Make sure all exits open easily. Try them yourself.
9. Inspect gutters and downspouts and ground slope to make sure water is channeled away from your facility. With a long ladder, inspect gutters for clogging with leaves, twigs and debris.
10. Review your city or county disaster plan and see if cleanup materials or sheets of plastic are stored for your use. If not, plan where these materials will come from or better yet, purchase large tarps or plastic sheeting to cover book shelves, computers or even the roof of your building.
11. Have the name and contact information of your insurance agent. If you have not had an insurance audit in the past five years, have your insurer go over your policies to be sure you are covered

adequately. If you are insured with/by the city, find out what the coverage is for the building and materials. Make sure it is adequate.

Weather can be truly unpredictable. A prolonged, deep cold snap could freeze pipes never frozen before. An unusually heavy rain could send water where it has never been before and freaky straight-line winds can strike with the force of a tornado.

The real disaster would be if you decided to procrastinate and not collect information and have a plan to deal with a disaster; it's like riding in your car without a seatbelt.

Celebrating Nebraska Carnegie Libraries

Christmas is coming and Eastern Library System has the gift you can give that is guaranteed to fit and be used! We have selected 21 Nebraska Carnegie Libraries for an 18-month calendar. Talented professional graphic artist, Ananda Spadt, sketched the libraries from original photos of the libraries. This very attractive calendar is for sale for only \$10. Libraries featured are:

Aurora	McCook
Ashland	Pawnee City
Beatrice	Ravenna
Blair	Scottsbluff
Chadron	Sidney
David City	Tekamah
Fremont	Wayne
Holdrege	South Omaha
Gibbon	Kearney
Columbus	Hastings
Lincoln (Main)	

ELS also has note cards in either cream or white with any of the above libraries on the front. Cost is \$1.50 each or 12 for \$12.

An example and ordering information can be found on our web page at www.elsne.org, or contact us a call at 800-627-7884 / 402-330-7884, ktooker@windstream.net.

We can also customize any Carnegie library picture into a glass ball shaped ornament for \$5.

Note — The calendars and the note cards are copyrighted but if you would like to use the one of your library and make your own note cards for the library gift shop or to sell or give away, please contact us.

Eastern Library System Board Meeting

October 9, 2009

ELS Office – 11929 Elm Street, Suite 18, Omaha

Board Members Present: John Seyfarth, Robin Bernstein, Joyce Neujahr, Scott Berryman, Rosa Schmidt, Mary Jo Mack, Gayle Roberts, David Privett, Lowen Kruse, Marie Reidelbach, Jan Therien, Nancy Meyer, Kathleen Tooker

The meeting was called to order by President, John Seyfarth.

Board Members introduced themselves and shared what was new in their libraries, institutions, or personal activities.

The August 14, 2009, meeting minutes were corrected with the addition of Jan Therien present at the meeting. Jan Therien approved the minutes as corrected and Joyce Neujahr seconded. Motion carried to approve the minutes as corrected.

Treasurer's reports for August and September 2009 were reviewed. The reports were approved to be filed for audit.

Correspondence included a thank you from a Central Community College student for Kathy Tooker's presentation in Columbus on September 18.

Kathy Tooker and John Seyfarth attended the NLC/System Quarterly meeting on September 28 at the Grand Island Public Library. Discussion centered on initiating a planning process across the state, accreditation, and roles of the systems. With continued flat budgets, it is challenging for the regional library systems to provide the programs and services. If the Nebraska Library Commission's budget is cut it is likely cuts will be passed onto the systems. Little that can be done for 2010, but it was suggested strategizing for 2011 is important to improve the financial stability of all the library systems across the state. Fortunately, good budgeting, fund-raising, and grant writing has kept the ELS in good standing for the current year..

The executive director's report for the past two months was distributed. Kathy reported on some of the highlights:

- A visit to the Public Libraries in Waterloo, Fremont, Hooper, Scribner, Snyder, and North Bend.
- Speaking to Library Information Service students from community colleges.
- Kathy is working with Becky Pasco who is planning a regional school library conference.

- Kathy announced that all but two public libraries in the Eastern Library System are accredited; 15 libraries are at the enhanced level, and three at the excellent level including the Oakland Public Library, John Stahl West Point Public Library and Baright Public Library, Ralston.
- ELS received \$2000 from the Dollar General store for the book bag project. Requests have been coming in for bags for grades 4-6.
- Kathy noted that February 9 is Legislative Day.

Committee Reports

A. Nominating – No Report

B. Fundraising – Marie Reidelbach

- Items to be sold at NLA/NEMA Annual Meeting in the exhibit area include Christmas decorations, note cards in packs or individually, and calendars of the Nebraska Carnegie Library sketches. Also will be selling the Book Lovers' calendars.
- Stuart Dayton, UNMC, provided two posters promoting the Nebraska Carnegie items. They will be hung behind the ELS table in the exhibit area.
- Kathy met with Marcia Jussel, community representative, regarding the November 28 Book Fair at the Barnes and Noble at Oak View Shopping Center. ELS will receive a percentage of the sale purchases that day provided the person mentions ELS when they check-out.

C. Technology – No Report

D. Continuing Education –

Kathy Tooker reported for Joyce Neujahr since she was unable to attend the meeting. Kathy reminded people of the upcoming Fall Colloquium and the Grief Pre-conference to be held at NLA/NEMA Conference.

Old Business

Several of the brainstorming ideas discussed in the last board meeting is underway. Kathy shared that three email messages on services and opportunities has resulted in 89 people on their current routing table. A meeting has taken place on establishing a Mentoring program for the Eastern Library System. Packaged programs for teens are already available on the web. Simply go to the ELS Website and look for [Share Your Library Programs on Google Docs](#)

(continued on next page)

New Business

The amended Budget for FY 2009-2010 was motioned for approval by Rosa Schmidt, seconded by Mary Jo Mack, and motion was carried.

Lowen Kruse motioned to approve the 2009-2011 System Plan, Robin Bernstein seconded, and motion carried.

Open House of the ELS New Office Scheduled after the ELS Board meeting on Friday, December 11 from 2-5. Help from board members after the meeting is appreciated.

David Privett motioned to adjourn the meeting, Jan Therien seconded, motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Marie Reidelbach, Secretary of the Eastern Library System Board.

Next Meeting:

Friday, December 11, 2009

Early Childhood Training Center, Omaha

Kathy Tooker was presented the Communication & Leadership Award at the Toastmaster's "Power Up District 24 Awards Luncheon" held at Mahoney State Park. CONGRATULATIONS!

Newly Elected Officers of the Nebraska Library Association

NLA Vice President/President Elect, Christine Walsh
NLA Treasurer, Marjorie Harrison
MPLA Rep, Theresa Jehlik

C&U Section

Vice Chair/Chair Elect, Sabrina Riley
Secretary, Ben Brick

Para Section

Vice Chair/Chair Elect, Marguerite Miller

PLTS

Chair, Sarah Watson
Vice Chair/Chair Elect, Robin Clark
Secretary/Treasurer, Terry Wingate

SCYP

Vice Chair/Chair Elect, Gayle Roberts
Secretary/Treasurer, Patty Birch

ITART

Vice Chair/Chair Elect, Karin Dalziel
Secretary, Becky Wymer

NMRT

Vice Chair/Chair Elect, Ted Naylor
Secretary, Sarah Haack
Treasurer, Melissa Tiemann

TSRT

Vice Chair/Chair Elect, Arnette Payne

NLA Awards



- Presidential Award for Excellence—Becky Pasco, University of Nebraska at Omaha
- PLTS Excalibur Award—Lisa Olivigini—Crete Public Library
- C & U Distinguished Service Award—Corinne Jacox, Creighton University
- SCYP Mad Hatter Award—Shawna Linder, Kearney Public Library
- Paraprofessional of the Year Award—Jennifer Wrampe, Nebraska Library Commission
- NMRT Mentor of the Year Award—Judy Johnson, Retired from UNL
- NMRT Beginning Professional of the Year Award—Susan Franklin, Hastings College



Joy Johnson co-founder of the Centering Corporation was the presenter at the NLA/NEMA conference last month. The Centering Corporation provides education and resources for the bereaved. Joy gave those who attended some techniques for

helping library patrons deal with end-of-life issues. She also gave everyone a bear.





www.cccneb.edu

Starting January 11, 2010

LIBR 2150

Managing Collections in Libraries and Information Agencies

Online class

Spring Term, 2010

Monday, January 11, 2010 - Thursday, May 6, 2010

Course will provide students with an understanding of managing collections in libraries and information agencies, including:

- Basics of Collection Management (terminology, models)
- 21st Century Literacies
- Community Analysis
- Selection (All resources, for all age levels)
- Acquisition
- Collection Analysis
- Deselection / Weeding
- Intellectual Freedom
- Copyright
- Resource Sharing

LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library and Information Services is a prerequisite required for this class.

For information concerning Admissions or Registration, contact:

Mary Young
Admissions/Recruiting Director
myoung@cccneb.edu
800- 402-562-1296

For questions regarding course content and organization, contact:

Patty Birch
Instructor, LIBR 2150
Central Community College
308-532-8667
pbirch@esu16.org

SAVE
THE DATE

Barnes & Noble BOOKFAIR

Saturday, November 28th
Barnes & Noble
Oakview—144th and Center, Omaha

Books make fantastic Holiday Gifts. Support Eastern Library System and have some book fun at Barnes & Noble.

Preorder your holiday cheesecake from the Barnes and Noble Café. A percentage of each purchase benefits Eastern Library System.

We will host several authors.

11 am—Bob Cain - “Crumpets, Tea and Poetry”

1 pm - Joy Johnson, “The Boob Girls”

1 pm—Jeff Koterba, “Inklings”

1 pm—Lowen Kruse, “God, Religion, and the Legislature”

11 am—Storytime - “Dewey, There’s a Cat in My Library” & other cat stories

Barnes & Noble BOOKFAIR

Eastern Library System

Saturday November 28th

Barnes & Noble

3333 Oakview Drive

10077154

Please present this voucher prior to making your purchase. A percentage of the net sale will be donated to your school/organization.*

*The purchase of gift cards, Barnes & Noble memberships, textbooks and other select items are not included in bookfair totals. Our discount purchasing program may not be applied to bookfair purchases.

